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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Ger

Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE: 25X1X6

SUBJECT

Conflicting SPD Views on Socialization

INFO.

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SUPPLEMENT

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ORIGIN

1. Differences within the Berlin SPD concerning the desirability of immediate "socialization" (postponed by a recent decision of the Komendatura) appeared at a meeting on 9 august of the party's sub-committee on industry. The following were members of the sub-committee:

Eugen ?

Unrath, Dahlem, Chairman

Prof.

Könnemann, Grunewald

fmı

Funke Reichenau

Pardolf

Wissel, the former cabinet ministe

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- 2. Umrath and Funke, whom source describes as dogmatic Marxists, advocated immediate socialization at any cost, arguing that it is possible now, while capitalism is in a weakened state, and that if this opportunity is missed it will not recur for fifty years. Umrath also pointed out that a policy of socializing industries would be approved and assisted by the Soviet Union.
- Könnemann, although he was a principal author of the proposed socialization law for Berlin, considered that a situation ripe for socialization does not yet exist. He said the British example showed that the people's reaction cannot be predicted, and expressed fears of a sudden decline in production. Both he and Reichenau maintained that there is no conclusive evidence that German workers either understand or favor the idea of socialization. Former Minister Missel supported this view, and added that the difficult conditions resulting from the collapse of Germany would tend to be ascribed to the socialization policy, which would thereby be discredited in the mind of the public.

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